

For Immediate Release

Contact Name: David White

Deputy City Manager/Director of Finance
City Manager's Office

Phone: (707) 428-7398 Fax: (707) 428-7798

E-mail: dwhite@fairfield.ca.gov

For questions regarding survey methodology, contact Bryan Godbe at (650) 288-3027

Community survey shows residents want to protect and maintain public safety services, support locally-controlled funding source

Fairfield, California (Wednesday, April 18, 2012)—According to a recent community survey, residents of Fairfield want to protect and maintain their local community services and programs, placing a high degree of importance on protecting public safety services. Residents also indicated support for a protected, reliable source of local revenue that cannot be taken by Sacramento.

The survey was conducted March 15 through March 19 by opinion research firm Godbe Research with 405 residents across the community. The City of Fairfield commissioned the survey to evaluate the Fairfield community's views related to the City's fiscal challenges, general City services, and attitudes toward a potential local funding measure.

Maintaining crime, drug, and gang prevention programs was the top priority at 77%, as was maintaining rapid 9-1-1 emergency response times (75%) and neighborhood police patrols at current levels (71%). Preventing reductions in fire protection scored 71% when asked about maintaining the existing five fire companies and preventing firefighter layoffs. Preventing the youth center from being closed and the after-school programs for children and teens from being cut also ranked important at 76%.

"With Fairfield facing so many difficult budget decisions due to Sacramento take-aways – over \$44 million in just the last three years – it was important to have community feedback on what our service priorities must be," stated City Manager Sean Quinn. "The survey results confirm the City Council's position that maintaining public safety is the number one concern of our residents and that there is community support to take steps to evaluate what options the City has to curb or prevent future cuts from happening."

The City Council received the results of the community survey at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 17.